

PRESS RELEASE

The **Taste of Polonia Festival** returns on August 31, 2018 to the Northwest side of Chicago. This Labor Day festival lasts four days and is the largest Polish fest in the United States. Now in its 39th year, the event brings live music and dancing to three stages and children's entertainment to a fourth stage. The 2018 festival hosts the return of many popular bands, combined with the best of Polish culture, music and cuisine provided by 12 food vendors. And, of course, "na zdrowie" (*cheers*), Polish beer.

This Chicago festival always features a huge variety of live music performed by over 30 bands. Each day begins with Polka music followed by tribute bands playing: 80's music, pop music, rock music, and additional genres. The World Music Stage features popular bands flown in from Poland, plus additional performances by local Chicago bands. The WMS bar features unique liquid Polish goodies.



So much more: A kid's zone with face painting, clowns, jump zone, and dedicated children's activities is increasingly popular with Chicago families. A block long midway offering shopping treasures from many vendors leads to carnival rides and games. A craft beer bar featuring local favorites, or a chance to explore, is opposite the Tribute Stage.

Inside the Copernicus Center: The historic theater offers ethnic dance and theater performances, Polish film festival, singing contest, classical music concert and much much more. In addition, the lobby & Annex host a casino, art exhibits, tastings, cooking classes and a full bar offer festival goers even more variety, or a cooling break from the sun inside the air conditioned Copernicus Center.

Proceeds of the Taste of Polonia Festival benefit the Copernicus Foundation, a 501c(3) nonprofit organization. The Copernicus Foundation underwrites and sponsors numerous performing arts groups, community events, and local non-profit organizations of the Northwest side of Chicago. The Foundations underwriting has exceeded \$250,000 for each of the past seven years.

LOCATION: Off I-90, Exit 84. FREE Parking with Free Shuttle is available from the Irish American Heritage Center. Public transportation: CTA or Metra to Jefferson Park + 2 block walk or Bus #81

Festival Dates: August 31 thru September 3, 2018 → Friday, 5 to 10pm + Sat & Sun, 12 to 10pm + Mon, 12 to 9pm

Additional information at: TOPChicago.org ~ events@copernicuscenter.org ~ 773-313-9157